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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Indonesia

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SUBJECT Guerrilla Activities in Java and Borneo

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DATE OF INFO. 25-31 December 1948

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. The strength of guerrilla forces in West Java is estimated at several thousand men. These men are armed for the most part with Japanese weapons, but are also equipped with modern automatic weapons of the Dutch army which were stolen, captured in clashes, received from Dutch deserters, or obtained by other means.
2. It is reported that the population is cooperating with the guerrilla forces to the extent of supplying them with food and other necessities. As a result the Dutch are still holding many people in custody. Their number is estimated at several thousand and they are held in prisons and camps throughout the country.
3. The guerrilla forces in West Java consist of the following groups:
- Intellectuals - scholars, students, former civil service officials, etc. These persons are the instructors and leaders of the forces.
 - Lasjkar Rakjat (People's Army). This force is composed of former personnel of the Siliwangi Division of the Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI), which was formerly stationed in West Java and which included other fighting forces within its ranks, namely, the Kiansantang battalions of students and scholars, and the Darussalam battalions of religious groups.
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4. Guerrilla contingents are stationed around the main cities and in areas where estates are located. [REDACTED] Comment. It was reported in [REDACTED] that guerrilla activities have been divided into the following six areas of operation: Batavia-Krawang-Tjikampek, Buitenzorg-Sukabumi, Bandung, Tasikmalaya, Garut, and Purwakarta.)
5. The aims of the guerrilla forces are:
- The destruction of Dutch military forces through attacks on military camps, convoys, etc.
 - The destruction of the Dutch-inspired civil administration. Since it

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was apparent that the Dutch government wished to restore the pre-war colonial administrative system by means of civil officials and since this system implies an infringement upon the rights of the people, many (civil) officials were kidnapped or even murdered.

- c. The prevention of the transport of export products from the estates. This is the reason for the numerous attacks on estates in West Java, the destruction of factories, and the shooting at convoys.
6. Guerrillas are reported to be active throughout the residency of Cheribon and to have actually entered the outskirts of the city of Cheribon. The town of Jatibarang, about forty miles northwest of Cheribon, was attacked ~~one evening~~ at sundown and held by the guerrillas until dawn.
7. Fighting occurred almost every night in and around the town of Tjikampek, important railway junction east of Batavia. Many inhabitants, mostly Chinese, were evacuated. Railway lines were destroyed in many different places and bridges demolished, thus hampering communications between Batavia and Bandung and Batavia and Cheribon, in the last week of December.
8. Every night shooting took place in the city of Sukabumi. Several estates in the neighborhood of Sukabumi were attacked and estate buildings destroyed. Many estate guards deserted to the guerrillas, taking with them their arms and ammunition.
9. The police station at Polobogo, south of Semarang in Central Java, was attacked by guerrillas, who succeeded in capturing several rifles and other articles. On the same night the police station at Suruh, Central Java was attacked.
10. On 29 December 1948, three village officials of Kedungwringin, in the Salatiga area of Central Java, were captured by armed persons. Two of them were (later) found dead; the third escaped.
11. Estates in the neighborhood of Klaten and Solo, in Central Java, are the subject of almost nightly attacks, which sometimes result in severe damage to factories and estate buildings. On other estates no laborers are coming to work.
12. The train from Bandung to Sukabumi was recently shot at and the Military Police arrested six members of the train's personnel.
13. The rubber estate, Tjiemas, west of Buitenzorg, was attacked and buildings set on fire. The loss incurred by this attack was estimated at f. 2,000.
14. The house of the District Chief (Wedana) of Tjisarua, in West Java, south of Buitenzorg, was surrounded and the rifles of the three police-guards of the Wedana were taken away. Nothing was done to the Wedana himself.
15. On the night of 31 December 1948, heavy shooting occurred in the town of Tasikmalaya, West Java.
16. On the grounds that the internal security was endangered by the infiltration of Republican forces from Java, a "state of war" was declared by the Dutch for South-east Borneo and a "state of siege" for Hulu Sungai, north of Banjarmasin, Borneo.

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